### **Person-Centered Planning**

#### What is Person-Centered Planning?

Person-Centered Planning (PCP) puts the focus on the student and his or her preferences, interests, and abilities (rather than on needs or limitations). The purpose of PCP is to develop and define the student's postsecondary vision and the goals needed to achieve that vision. The process involves identifying resources and supports that the student needs to reach his or her goals, and then organizing those resources and supports to put the plan into action. Person-Centered Planning relies on a small group of committed people who are willing to act as advocates and resources for the student.

# How does Person-Centered Planning fit into the transition-planning process?

IDEA 2004 states that "appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment and, where appropriate, independent living skills" must be included in a student's transition plan. PCP lays the foundation for further transition as needed. During the transition-planning process, PCP assists the student to create a postsecondary vision. With the help of a small group, resources are identified and a plan is devised to assist the student in achieving that vision.

## How does the Person-Centered Planning process work?

The PCP process generally takes three to five meetings. Some involve only the student and a facilitator. Others also include the group who will be helping the student with this process.

### **Person-Centered Planning Process**

Facilitator helps the student prepare to take the lead in the PCP process.

1

Student identifies who should be invited to the PCP meeting and chooses where and when to hold the meeting.

2

Facilitator conducts fullgroup PCP meeting; a plan is devised, responsibilities are assigned, and a timeline of activities is created.

3

Student approves written summary of the meeting and distributes.

4

Subsequent meetings may be arranged to track progress and to resolve any issues that arise.

5

### **Anticipated outcomes**

- Increased self-determination for the student
- Detailed plan of how the student can achieve his/her vision
- A strategy that can be used to develop a comprehensive transition plan

### Institute for Community Inclusion

